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PRESIDENT SAYS MRS PERON MAY BE PARDONED

PY011343 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 1 Sep 83

[Excerpt] At the end of yesterday's cabinet meeting, President Bignone was interviewed by journalists. He said that the government now has enough background information to reach a decision concerning the status of Mrs Peron very soon, and that the possibility of pardoning her is being studied. With regard to the amnesty law, he said that he was unable to say whether it will be promulgated before or after the elections slated for 30 October, because no definite decision has been reached. He said that in order to make this decision there will have to be a dialogue between the current government and the elected administration.

As to the kidnapping of Guillermo Patricio Kelly, the president described the episode as shameful and lamented the resulting scandal because this disrupts the actions of the courts and confuses the people.

SANTA FE POLICE STRIKE OVER SALARY DEMANDS

PY011806 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1602 GMT 31 Aug 83

[Text] Santa Fe, 31 Aug (DYN) -- Approximately 1,500 members of the local provincial police today confined themselves to barracks, demanding a salary hike, according to sources of this institution. This action began as of 1000 today when the dissatisfied personnel met in the building of the regional firemen's unit located in front of the police headquarters.

The personnel, mostly low-ranking, who had gathered to attend the main ceremonies of the anniversary of the provincial police, broke formation to confine themselves to barracks and press home their demands for a minimum wage of 3,000 pesos and free uniforms.

Demands Met; Strike Ends

PY020305 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0010 GMT 1 Sep 83

[Text] Santa Fe, 1 Sep (NA) -- The approximately 1,500 policemen who had confined themselves to their barracks since Tuesday today ended their strike when the government agreed to meet their demands. Government Minister Eduardo Suter Schneider reported that an increase of 1,200 pesos has been granted, and that it will be paid in two installments with the September and October salaries.

Suter Schneider added that for the civilian police this increase will total 1400 pesos. The government also agreed to pay a single additional amount of 400 pesos in a special payment between 15 and 20 September.

COLINA MEMBERS TO SUPPORT PERONIST SLATE

PY012120 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2222 GMT 30 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 30 Aug (DYN) -- Today half a dozen leftwing parties have formally expressed to Deolindo Bittel their support for the Justicialist presidential ticket. This was done through a resolution of the so-called National Liberation Convergence [Convergencia de la Liberacion Nacional -- COLINA], which is based on the need for preventing a division of the popular vote at such a critical time.

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SPECIAL OAS CONFERENCE ON EXTERNAL DEBT CONCLUDES

PA102354 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0029 GMT 10 Sep 83

[By Rigoberto Leon-Hinojosa]

[Excerpts] Caracas, 9 Sep (DPA) -- The special OAS conference on external financing held in Caracas over the past 5 days concluded today without the approval of a final declaration. However, a document presented by the host country, Venezuela, was approved. This document contains a summary of the goals set and observations made originally by the delegates of 31 member nations at the experts level, which were later studied for 2 days by the conference at the ministerial level.

This document will be "revieved and corrected" later in Washington, and it will then become the final declaration of this hemispheric meeting. The document makes a detailed analysis of Latin American and Caribbean external debt and its refinancing. It notes that the actual problem of the external debt "is characterized by its high amount, the excessive burden of the resulting interest, and length of payment terms that are incompatible with the repayment capacity of the debtors."

The document warns against slipping into a situation of failing to make payments, which would have "unpredictable consequences on the international financial system." It also points out that some countries have already agreed with the creditor banks on the signing of refinancing agreements drawn up by these countries and the IMF, which include plans for payment adjustment programs. "The refinancing plans adopted have concentrated on providing short-term solutions for the inability of some nations of the area to comply fully with their financial commitments," the document states. "In addition," it continues, "it is important to emphasize that these refinancing agreements have been granted at higher costs than the original loans, as far as 'spreads,' basic rates, and commissions are concerned, and for excessively short terms intended to achieve a substantial improvement in the payment capacity of the debtors."

The document also contains a veiled criticism of the IMF, which Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins yesterday compared to an "international banking police."

"The IMF participation in these refinancing schemes has constantly increased, partically to the point where it has become an indispensable requisite," the document says, and later adds that "the effectiveness and realism of its economic policy recommendations have apparently failed to pass the test of hard facts, because the social and economic maladjustments observed during their application have not improved the actual payment capacity of the countries; in fact, they have contributed to increasing the internal social tensions of the area."

It also criticizes the IMF for the fact that its policies are immersed "in a perspective continually geared to the short term."

In conclusion the document points out that "the debtors must make efforts to create awareness among the creditors that the solution to the problem of the external debt demands the application of the principles of international cooperation and the use of institutional mechanisms created for this purpose. Nevertheless," it adds, "the effects of this cooperation will be limited unless it is accompanied by a world economic reactivation and ample cooperation on the part of the creditors themselves."

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PY141647 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0133 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 13 Sep (NA) -- Lieutenant General Cristino Nicolaides today categorically rejected reports that the junta will be dissolved following the elections slated for 30 October this year, while President Reynaldo Bignone asked for common sense regarding "certain types of demands." He added: "I am not going to say whether these demands are fair or unfair. All I can say is that they are beyond the possibilities of the government."

He said that "if we were to grant all these demands, things would get worse, and we know that it is those who are theoretically supposed to benefit from the measures who actually suffer from the worsening of the situation." The president emphasized that "if common sense prevails at all levels, we will be able to live through these 45 days amid a more acceptable atmosphere than that which would result from a chain of demands."

The commander in chief of the army, when asked about the rumors that the junta will dissolved, said: "I know nothing at all about this, and I want to deny this report categorically." Nicolaides and Bignone made these remarks during a talk they held with journalists at the end of the ceremonies to commemorate Infantry Day, which was held at Plaza de Mayo.

When Bignone was asked about what would happen if "prudence" is discarded and a social explosion takes place -- as certain political sectors have been warning -- he said that "what we do not want is for this political stage we are moving into, the political campaign itself, to be prevented from developing in the open, honest manner that is required."

He went on to admit that the economic situation "is causing concern." When asked whether ceiling prices would be set for staples, Bignone answered that "the government has shown fully that it understands the problems, but we have already tried ceiling prices in this country and we know what the results were; it is even worse if this measure is implemented by an outgoing government."

Speaking about the proliferation of work stoppages and strikes over salary demands, and the possibility that these measures could endanger the elections, Bignone categorically said: "The October elections are in no danger whatsoever. These elections are a commitment; they are provided for by law and express a nationwide desire. No one can or must go against the desire of the nation."

He was also asked about the status of provincial police forces who have withdrawn to their barracks. Bignone answered: "Because of their organization and the duties they must perform, something like this should not happen, and the government is dealing with the matter from this point of view. It is hardly possible for the government to agree to anything whatsoever under these conditions."

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NINTH SELA MEETING OPENS IN CARACAS 19 SEP

PA200120 Paris AFP in Spanish 2346 GMT 19 Sep 83

[Text] Caracas, 19 Sep (AFP) -- Five Latin American foreign ministers and a dozen ministers and personalities of the region are participating in the ninth SELA meeting that opened today in Caracas.

Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo is chairing the meeting, which will last until Wednesday. It was announced that the meeting is also being attended by his colleagues Bernardo Sepulveda of Mexico, Augusto Vega Imbert of the Dominican Republic, Andrade Diaz-Duran of Guatemala, and Jose Alberto Zambrano of Venezuela.

Economy ministers of the area who will participate are Kendrick Radix of Grenada, R. St John of Barbados, Henry Ruiz of Cuba [as received], Edmundo Jarquin of Nicaragua, Ivan Rivera of Peru, Jose Menalco Solis of Panama, and Hernan Soriano of Venezuela.

Also participating are Fernando Berrocal, minister of the presidency of Costa Rica; L.E. Alibux, prime minister of Suriname, and Enrique Iglesias, ECLA executive secretary.

Lloreda Cited on Peace Treaty

FL202052 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1808 GMT 20 Sep 83

[Text] Rodrigo Lloredo Caicedo, Colombia's minister of foreign affairs, said in Caracas, site of the ninth SELA meeting, that the last meeting of the Contadora Group with the foreign ministers of Central America may be the source of a peace treaty for the region.

In statements to the Venezuelan newspaper EL NACIONAL, Lloreda Caicedo said that a document is currently under consideration which, if approved, would facilitate the preparation of a peace treaty and permanent legal instruments.

After reiterating his optimism concerning the efforts of the Contadora Group, he noted that, if the document discussed in Panama earlier this month by the nine foreign ministers of the area were to be adopted by the [Central American] governments after careful consideration, it would open the prospect of initiating immediate negotiations. He said the document had not been made public.

Sepulveda on Mexican Position

FL201705 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0610 GMT 20 Sep 83

[Text] Caracas, 19 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor said today that the capacity for self-determination and the possibility of achieving peace without foreign interference are at stake in Central America. He added that the Contadora Group has been a deterrent in the area.

In his participation at the ninth SELA meeting, Sepulveda Amor emphasized that the Latin American countries know that their capacity for self-determination is in the balance in Central America -- ideological and political pluralism and the possibility of achieving peace, stability, and justice without foreign interference.

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PY221827 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1747 GMT 22 Sep 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Sep (NA) -- The military Junta severely warned today about the effects and consequences of the succession of stoppages to demand salary increases, noting that it will adopt all necessary measures to assure the fulfillment of the electoral timetable.

The junta also reasserted "the absolute unity" of the three branches of the Armed Forces, and noted that it will implement all necessary measures to avoid any social disorder.

These announcements are included in a communique issued at the end of a meeting that the three junta commanders held this morning. It reads as follows: Today at 0900, the military junta held a meeting at the Condor Building, Air Force headquarters. The meeting was attended by Navy Commander Ruben Franco, Army Commander Cristino Nicolaides, and Air Force Commander Augusto Jorge Hughes.

"During the meeting, the commanders discussed the present socioeconomic situation the country is experiencing and decided the following:

"1) To carry out an extensive study to establish the true causes generating the present disorders that are jeopardizing the internal order and security of the nation.

"2) To adopt all necessary measures to safeguard the strict fulfillment of the established electoral timetable and to reassert the principle of authority aimed at fulfilling this objective.

"3) To reassert the absolute unity of the Army, Navy, and Air Force regarding the leadership of the institutionalization process.

"4) To guarantee the enforcement of all necessary measures to avoid any plans aimed at creating disorders or actions thwarting the aforementioned objectives or jeopardizing domestic peace and security.

"5) To urge all citizens to mediate on the situation so that they may come to realize the true motives, consequences, and effects, whether natural or artificial, of the situation the country is presently experiencing, and so that through their invaluable effort we may achieve the institutionalization of the country. The junta meeting ended at 1300."

AGUIRRE LANARI DEPARTS FOR NEW YORK UN MEETING

PY230309 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0223 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Sep (NA) -- Foreign Minister Juan Aguirre Lanari stated tonight that all his efforts will be aimed at "achieving a favorable resolution" from the United Nations "to firm up direct negotiations with Great Britain over the Malvinas Islands."

"This is our objective and the main purpose of our trip," the foreign minister said at Ezeiza Airport. Aguirre Lanari left at 2300 for New York to participate in the 38th UN General Assembly, before which he will reassert Argentine claims over the South Atlantic islands.

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